

IN THE CLAIMS

The pending claims are provided below.

1. (Previously Presented) A heat patch for providing therapy to a body, the heat patch comprising:
 - a reflective layer that reflects infrared energy emitted by the body back into the body;
 - a heat source; and
 - a cover layer that is attached to said reflective layer to form an enclosure that contains said heat source.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The heat patch of claim 1 wherein said reflective layer is aluminized polyester film.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) The heat patch of claim 1 wherein the heat source is a resistive heating element.
6. (Previously Presented) The heat patch of claim 1 wherein said heating composition generates heat which maintains the heat patch in a range of about 38 degrees centigrade to about 44 degrees centigrade when the heat patch is exposed to the gas.
7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A heat patch for providing therapy to a body, the heat patch comprising:

an enclosure that includes a gas-permeable layer and a reflective layer attached to said gas-permeable layer, said reflective layer being capable of reflecting infrared energy emitted by the body back into the body; and

a heating composition sealed inside said gas-permeable layer and said reflective layer, said heating composition being capable of generating heat when a gas is received through said gas-permeable layer.

9. (Original) The heat patch of claim 8 wherein said gas-permeable layer includes at least one portion that is impermeable to gas.

10. (Original) The heat patch of claim 8 wherein said heating composition is capable of generating heat when ambient air is received through said gas-permeable layer.

11. (Original) The heat patch of claim 8 wherein said heating composition is any combination of iron powder, water, water-retaining agent, reaction promoter and salt.

12. (Original) The heat patch of claim 8 wherein said heating composition generates sufficient heat to maintain the heat patch at a temperature greater than body temperature.

13. (Original) The heat patch of claim 12 wherein said heating composition generates sufficient heat to maintain the heat patch in a range of about 38 degrees centigrade to about 44 degrees centigrade when the heat patch is exposed to the gas.

14. (Original) The heat patch of claim 8 wherein said reflective layer is aluminized polyester film.

15. (Original) The heat patch of claim 8 wherein said reflective layer is capable of reflecting infrared energy having wavelengths in a range of about 3 to 50 microns.

16. (Previously Presented) A method of providing therapy to a body, the method comprising:
 - applying a heat patch to a portion of the body such that a reflective layer on the heat patch engages the body;
 - generating heat within the heat patch by delivering current through a resistive element; and
 - reflecting infrared energy emitted by the body back into the portion of the body using the reflective layer on the heat patch.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein generating heat within the heat patch includes controlling the heat generated by the heat patch.

19-21. (Canceled)

22. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein reflecting infrared energy includes reflecting infrared energy having wavelengths in a range of about 3 to 50 microns.

23-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method of providing therapy to a body, the method comprising:
enabling an exothermic reaction within a heat patch to generate heat, the heat patch
including an enclosure formed of a gas-permeable layer and a reflective layer;
applying the heat patch to a portion of the body such that the reflective layer is attached
to the body; and
reflecting infrared energy emitted by the body back into the portion of the body using the
reflective layer on the heat patch.
26. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein enabling an exothermic reaction within the
heat patch includes exposing the heat patch to air.
27. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein enabling an exothermic reaction within the
heat patch to generate heat includes maintaining the heat patch at a temperature in a range of
about 38 degrees centigrade to about 44 degrees centigrade.
- 28-29. (Canceled)